DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS

BUREAU OF SANITATION
BOARD REPORT NO. 1
November 22, 2010

CD: ALL

AUTHORITY TO EXECUTE MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING (MOUs) WITH LOCAL INDEPENDENT PHARMACIES AND COMMUNITY HEALTH-CARE CLINICS FOR THE COLLECTION OF HOME-GENERATED SHARPS

RECOMMENDATIONS

1. Authorized to execute the Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with selected local pharmacies and community health-care clinics within the City of Los Angeles (City) to assist City residents by providing them with convenient locations to safely and legally dispose of home-generated SHARPS.

2. Upon execution, request the City Clerk to attest and certify the five (5) original copies of the MOUs. The City Clerk and the Board each are to retain one original copy, and the remaining three (3) original copies are to be returned to the BOS, Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division (SRCRD) [contact Brian Ahn, for pick up at (213) 485-3827.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

There is no fiscal impact on the General Fund, as all program expenditures are from special funds.

TRANSMITTAL

1. Copy of motion and resolution authorizing the Director of the Bureau of Sanitation (Council File No. 06-1821) to enter into partnerships with healthcare providers within the City to collect on behalf of the City Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) and Universal Waste (U-Waste).

2. Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) between the City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation and eight (8) independent pharmacies and three (3) community health-care clinics.

3. Picture of a SHARPS Collection Container

DISCUSSION

The demand to safely dispose of HHW increases each year. The Solid Resources Citywide Recycling Division (SRCRD) of the Bureau of Sanitation has been taking the lead Citywide to manage the collection, recycling and proper disposal of HHW, E-Waste, Used Oil and Oil

Filters and U-Waste including SHARPS. SRCRD ensures that the process meets or exceeds State and Federal requirements; and is always seeking ways to improve and expand services to residents to dispose of their HHW, E-Waste and U-Waste materials including SHARPS.

Senate Bill 1305, signed by the governor on July 12, 2006, prohibits knowingly placing home generated SHARPS in household trash by September 1, 2008 and also requires the development of a safe, convenient and cost effective infrastructure for the collection and proper disposal of home generated SHARPS known as Universal Waste (U-Waste). With the change in the handling of SHARPS, the City needs additional collection venues for residents to meet this demand and also, SHARPS as a hazardous material must be collected and disposed of in compliance with safety and regulatory requirements.

On September 29, 2006, the Los Angeles City Council approved a request by the Bureau of Sanitation (C.F. 06-1821, Transmittal #1) to partner as a pilot program, with selected retail businesses within the City to collect HHW, electronic waste, U-Waste (SHARPS, mercury containing equipments and fluorescent tubes and bulbs) on the Bureau's behalf. In response to this Council motion SRCRD applied for and received Grant funding from CalRecycle (Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery) to establish partnership with retails stores and clinics for the collection of SHARPS.

The Bureau of Sanitation has been working to establish partnerships with local independent pharmacies and community health-care clinics within the City in order to assist City residents with convenient locations to safely and legally dispose of home-generated SHARPS. The Bureau of Sanitation was successful in establishing partnerships with eight (8) independent pharmacies and three (3) community health-care clinics and is requesting authority to execute MOUs (Transmittal #2) with each location. Under these MOUs, the City will assist in establishing a SHARPS collection program and provide twelve (12) months of collection and one-quart SHARPS containers. The participating location will promote and monitor the program and after the first twelve (12) months, pay for the collection of SHARPS.

MOU Administration

The responsibility for the administration of this MOU will be the Solid Resource Citywide Recycling Division, Bureau of Sanitation.

STATEMENT AS TO FUNDING

Funds are available in the amount of $9,000 for 12 months in the Household Hazardous Waste Trust Fund No. 526, Department 50 Permanent Recycling Centers, Account T201.

The City does not pay Pharmacies or Community Health-Care Clinics for the partnership resulting from the MOUs. The City does not pay Pharmacies or Community-Health Care Clinics for the collection of SHARPS. The City pays the services of the bins under a separate contract. If funds are not allocated for the continued operation of the Program, the City may terminate this MOU with thirty (30) days written notice to Pharmacies or Community Health-Care Clinics. If this MOU is determined to impose legal obligations on Pharmacies or Community Health-Care Clinics not otherwise described herein, Pharmacy or Community Health-Care Clinics may terminate this MOU immediately upon written notice to the City.

Respectfully submitted,

ENRIQUE C. ZALDIVAR, Director
Bureau of Sanitation

APPROVED AS TO FUNDS:

for VICTORIA A. SANTIAGO, Director
Office of Accounting

Date: 11/17/10

Prepared by:
Brian Ahn, SRCRD
(213) 485-3827